

CLINTON TOWNSHIP, WAYNE COUNTY, PA: PIONEER SETTLERS

The history of the pioneer settlers of Clinton Township that is presented in this issue of NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA on pages 1-13 is structured in terms of the Pioneer Day celebrations that were held in Clinton Township in the period 1915-1942 and in 1978. In writing this history, we have relied extensively on the large quantity of information about the pioneer settlers of Clinton Township that was either written by or collected by the late Lois Tryphenia (Norton) Curtis, photographs of whom are given in this issue of NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA on pages 7 and 26. Were it not for the exemplary historical work in that regard by Lois Curtis, the history of the pioneer settlers of Clinton Township that is given below could not, therefore, have been written.

→ Volume III, No. 2

IDEA FOR PIONEER DAY CONCEIVED

At the ceremonies at which was unveiled the monument in the Clinton Center Baptist Church Cemetery "IN MEMORY OF THE EARLY SETTLERS OF THIS [Clinton] TOWNSHIP AND THE FOUNDERS AND MINISTERS OF THE CLINTON BAPTIST CHURCH," it was decided to hold a "Pioneer or Old Home Day" each year in Clinton Township. This we learn from the article, "PIONEER DAY AT CLINTON CENTER AS RECORDED IN THE WAYNE INDEPENDENT THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1916," about the Pioneer Day celebration that was held in 1916. The first paragraph of that article reads as follows:

At the dedication of the monument, unveiled on August 27, 1915, at Clinton to the memory of the early settlers of that township and the early ministers of the Clinton Baptist Church, it was resolved to meet each year to honor the memory of the "pioneers of Clinton Township." In accordance with that decision such a gathering was held at the Clinton Centre Church on Sept. 1st [1916]. The ladies of the Congregation served dinner at 12 o'clock which seemed to occupy the undivided attention of a large number for an hour or more.